

ATTACHMENT 2 – MEMO TO FILE: CINDY MURPHY, OSPR, MAY 2, 2008



NTSB

National Transportation Safety Board

490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594-0001
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May 2, 2008

Memo to File

Re: Local Government Grant Program and oil spill contingency plans

On May 2nd, 2008 I contacted Cindy Murphy, the Local Government Grant Coordinator from the California Department of Fish and Game, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) regarding the Local Government Grant Program currently in place in California. The objective of the local government grant program is to encourage local governments to complete, update or revise an oil spill contingency plan and to help provide a coordinated response and cleanup effort between local governments, State and Federal officials in order to provide the best achievable protection of the California's Coast. The focus of this report will be the counties in the San Francisco Bay Delta Area and their participation in the Local Government Grant Program.

A short summary the conversation and provided references follows:

- OSPR oversees a grant program that allows counties that are adjacent to marine waters in California to apply for funding to be used for the development and maintenance of local oil spill contingency plans, and to participate in Area Committee Planning, sub-committee meetings (as appropriate), review the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) area plan, provide local government input to revisions to area plans, compare the USCG information and the local government oil spill contingency plans and document the differences as a result of the 2008 ACP updates; to include identification of equipment and resource gaps and participate in the OSPR's exercises and drills.
- Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR)¹, Section 852.60-65 discusses the Local Government Grant Program currently in place.
- Counties who applied for grant funding were initially awarded \$50,000 for the development of their local plan, and then roughly \$5,000 per year afterward to cover expenses associated with plan maintenance, participation in area committee planning, attend OSPR related training such as; volunteer coordination and liaison and participate in OSPR drills.
- Grant program is voluntary, not mandatory, thus local governments are not required to have plans.

¹ California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 1, Subdivision 4, Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response, Chapter 5 Loans, Claims and Grants, Subchapter 1: Local Government Grant Program, Sections 852.60-852.65.

- Based on this section 14 CCR, a “Minimum Planning Requirements Checklist” was created by OSPR to assist counties in the development of their local oil spill contingency plans.
- San Francisco and Delta Area extends through portions of Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco counties.
- With the exception of Napa, Sacramento, San Joaquin and Santa Clara each of these counties applied for and received \$50,000 in grant money to develop a local oil spill contingency plan when the program was introduced in 1993. However, many of the counties have not applied for funding to maintain their plans since that time, thus many of the plans are out of date.
- San Joaquin attempted to participate in the grant program in 2000 by submitting a local plan; however it wasn’t approved since it didn’t meet requirements.
- San Francisco, Marin, Solano, and Sonoma have the most current oil spill contingency plans in the San Francisco Bay and Delta area, meaning that they were updated within the last three years, and were the most active participants in Area Committee planning prior to *Cosco Busan*.
- Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Mateo counties have participated in the grant program but have not updated their plans since their initial development in 1995-96. They have periodically participated in Area Committee planning over the last several years.

References:

1. *Title 14 California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 852.60-65*
2. *Local Government Oil Spill Contingency plan, Minimum Planning Requirements Checklist*